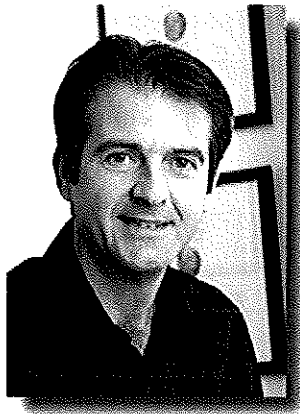




DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National
Institute of Child Health and
Human Development
Bethesda, Maryland 20892



Welcome to the Division of Intramural Research of the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at the National Institutes of Health. I am pleased that you have decided to join our team and hope your experience with us is both stimulating and rewarding.

The mission of the Division of Intramural Research is to understand and harness the science and technologies which will allow prediction, at or before birth, of diseases to which we are susceptible, to identify genetic, prenatal (fetal antecedents) and environmental factors that influence their expression so that interventions can be developed that will prevent or modify their expression. We at NICHD study the biology of development and examine events from conception through senescence at the molecular, physical/chemical, genetic, and behavioral level in cells, tissues/organs and organisms. This is done in an attempt to understand the biological processes of normal and pathological development in human beings. As a new member of the Institute, your role is critical to the NICHD DIR mission.

The provided orientation material is designed to serve as an introduction to the Institute and provide resources that will help you make the transition into your new role a smooth one. If you have any questions along the way, feel free to contact your Branch Chief, Branch Secretary or Administrative Officer.

Sincerely yours,

Constantine A. Stratakis, MD D(med)Sci
Scientific Director
Eunice Kennedy Shriver
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development